

REMARKS

Status of the Application

Claims 2, 4-9, 11-13 and 15-28 are all the claims pending in the Application. Claims 2, 12, 13, 19 and 20 stand rejected.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicants thank the Examiner for indicating that claims 4, 6, 9 and 15-28 are allowed, and for indicating that claim 11 would be allowable if rewritten to overcome the indefiniteness rejection discussed below.

Indefiniteness Rejection

The Examiner has rejected claim 11 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as allegedly being indefinite. The alleged informalities noted by the Examiner are hereby corrected. Thus, withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Obviousness Rejection

The Examiner has rejected claims 2, 12, 13, 19 and 20 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Hayakawa et al.* (US 4,478,595; hereinafter “*Hayakawa*”) in view of *Bartos et al.* (US 4,758,208; hereinafter “*Bartos*”). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

The Examiner takes the position that a combination of *Hayakawa* and *Bartos* teaches or suggests all of the features recited in independent claim 2.

Applicants disagree, and respectfully submit that neither *Hayakawa* nor *Bartos*, nor any combination thereof, teaches or suggests that “after said engine has been started, the set tension is switched or changed by said tension adjuster to an ordinary tension of said belt suitable when said accessory is driven,” as recited in independent claim 2.

Thus, Applicants respectfully submit that independent claim 2 is patentable over the applied references. Further, Applicants respectfully submit that rejected dependent claims 12, 13, 19 and 20 are allowable, *at least* by virtue of their dependency.

Thus, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw this rejection.

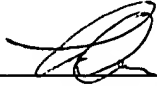
Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that claims 2, 4-9, 11-13 and 15-28 are allowable. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that the application now is in condition for allowance with all of the claims 2, 4-9, 11-13 and 15-28.

If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Please charge any fees which may be required to maintain the pendency of this application, except for the Issue Fee, to our Deposit Account No. 19-4880.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date: November 24, 2004